

24th March 2013



OUR LADY IMMACULATE
TOLWORTH

Parish News

PARTNER IN CHURCHES TOGETHER IN SURBITON



OUR LADY IMMACULATE PARISH

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PRIESTS OF THE PARISH: Canon Anthony J Charlton, Fr Arbo Lekule

Deacon: Rev A Callan, 59 Princes Avenue, Tolworth KT6 7JL Tel: 020 8399 9862 Parish Administrator: Mrs Elaine Intranova

OUR LADY IMMACULATE CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

399 Ewell Road, Tolworth, Surbiton, Surrey KT6 7DG Tel: 020 8399 9854 Fax: 020 8399 8582 www.oli.kingston.sch.uk

HEADTEACHER: Mr Tim Sheehan

Why Palms?

As we begin Mass today with the blessing of Palms, we would do well to pause and ask: 'Why?' The short answer for most people would be that it is in the Biblical account of the Triumphant Entry. And so it is, or at least in one of the Gospels. Matthew, Mark and Luke in fact do not refer to palms but more generally to cut rushes. However, we find ourselves approaching Passover, and as we look out of the window, we note that most plants have not yet come into leaf at this time of year. The palm of course is an evergreen, so perhaps not for the first time, we see that St John has accurate special information about what took place, which was not available to the other three. But all that still begs the question of why palms were used and not anything else that might have been available. We know from the donkey on which Jesus is riding into Jerusalem and the quotation of the relevant text in the Gospels that the prophecy of Zechariah 9 is in the mind of the Lord and would have been understood in Messianic terms by the crowds. They are very excited, because here is someone who is making a public statement about kingship. Passover was approaching, the great national Jewish festival of liberation from oppression, and the Romans were nervous. Some of them similarly spread their cloaks on the ground as Jesus approached on the donkey, which is of course a universal token of honour, but again the crowd may have been thinking specifically of King Jehu in the Old Testament, for whom this act of homage was also done. These are royal gestures and they are accompanied by the people uttering a traditional cry of help to the king: 'Hosanna!' This too is full of Messianic meaning to the crowd who long for the restoration of the Davidic Line and the kingdom of Israel. So that is the context of the palms being held. It is the honouring of kingship in the Davidic line, it is Messianic in expectation, and it is in the context of the approaching Passover, in a land occupied by oppressors and unbelievers. I think this allows us to discount another theory about the palms which some scholars have put



forward, namely that they represent an allusion to the Feast of Tabernacles. At this festival the Jewish people made booths in order to remind them of the time before God led them to the Promised Land, and one of the things that was prescribed at this festival was the use of palms to symbolise rejoicing. However, it was a festival which occurred in the autumn and Passover/Easter, as we know, tends to fall in early spring. Some have even

suggested that Jesus and His disciples were using a special calendar, different from that of mainstream Judaism, to make this theory work, but there is no consistent evidence for this. I think we should not look to a festival that occurs at a completely different time of year to explain our palms, but to something recent in Jewish history to the time of Our Lord, and which fits well with the context of these events. In the second century before the birth of Christ, the Jews had launched a successful uprising against their Greek-speaking pagan overlords, and under the Maccabees, for a while restored Jewish independence. This was finally brought to an end by the Roman occupation in 63 BC under Pompey. Now the Maccabees had earlier been allied with the Romans, and

we read in the First Book of Maccabees of how the Jewish people waved palm branches to celebrate the final liberation of Jerusalem. Given the relative freshness of these events, and the fact that Jesus is entering the Holy City with an expressly Messianic gesture, I think it is here we have to seek the origin of our palms. There remains the intriguing possibility the Maccabees may actually have borrowed the regal palm symbol from the Romans and Greeks, because it was used in the Roman triumphal procession to greet the victorious general or ruler when he returned to the city. If that is the case, then both the crowd and the Romans will have had much the same understanding of the meaning of the palms. Only Jesus on His donkey was trying to tell them something very different about His Kingship. Their unwillingness to understand this led to Golgotha.

Fr Nicolas

SATURDAY/SUNDAY 23rd/24th March 2013

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD (C)

- Sat 6.30pm** Nicholas Reginald RIP (Anne Sebastian)
Sun 9am Gladys Millard RIP (Sheila Howe)
11am People of the Parish
3pm **Baptism: Michael John Connors**
4.30pm **Stations of the Cross**
6pm Gertrude McLay RIP (Maria Campbell)

Daily Masses 25th - 30th March 2013

CONFESSIONS & STATIONS OF THE CROSS AFTER

9.30am MASS ON HOLY MONDAY & TUESDAY

Mon: Monday of Holy Week

9.30am Sheila Charlton RIP (Fr Anthony)

Tues: Tuesday of Holy Week

7am Welfare of Freda Sirmon (FM)

9.30am Angela Pini RIP (Hugo Pini)

Wed: Wednesday of Holy Week

8am Joe D'Costa RIP (Bertha & Family)

11am Chrism Mass at St George's Cathedral Southwark

Thurs: MAUNDY THURSDAY

4pm Syro Malabar Mass of the Lord's Supper

8pm Mass of the Lord's Supper

Michele De Christofaro RIP 1st Anniversary

Offertory Collection for the Parish Lenten Project

11.45pm Night Prayer

Fri: GOOD FRIDAY (day of Fasting and Abstinence)

10.00 Silent Walk of Witness (Churches Together in Surbiton) from 10.15am Surbiton Methodist Church

11am Stations of the Cross for Children & Families

3pm Solemn Afternoon Liturgy

Retiring Collection for the Holy Places

8pm Stations of the Cross

Sat HOLY SATURDAY -No Mass during the day

9am Office of Reading

SATURDAY/SUNDAY 30th/31st March 2013

EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

Sat 8pm **Easter Vigil** People of the Parish

Sun 9.00am Servando & Juanita RIP (Family)

11.00am Mary Hunt RIP (Lucy & Ralph Smallwood)

Baptism during Mass: Poina Sidlauskaitė

6.00pm Margaret Nichols RIP



We welcome into the church **Thomas Joseph Chang & William Thomas Creaser** who were baptised last weekend.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

HOLY SATURDAY 30th March 2013

9.30am to 11am

Last week's Offertory Collection

for the upkeep of the church : £1,825

We thank you for your continued generosity .
(Cash counters this week: George & Paul Hoskins
Next week: Pam Ford & Vivian Phillips)

READINGS

This week: Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord (C) Page 184

First Reading Isaiah 50:4-7

The prophet's words fall as if from the lips of Jesus himself.

Second Reading Philippians 2:6-11

St Paul extols the glory of Christ's incarnation and crucifixion, through which God raised him high to be worshipped and acclaimed.

Gospel Luke 22:14 - 23:56

Luke tells the story of Christ's passion, from the Last Supper to his burial.

Next Week: Easter Sunday,

The Resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ (C) Page 258

First Reading Acts 10:34. 37-43

God has raised Jesus to life and allowed him to be seen by certain chosen witnesses.

Second Reading Colossians 3:1-4

Our thoughts are to be on heavenly things for we have been brought back to true life with Christ.

Gospel John 20:1-9

In their experience of the empty tomb the disciples finally understand the teaching that Jesus must rise from the dead.

We pray for all **the faithful departed** who have recently died. We pray especially for **Jim Eggleston, John Walsh, Michael Doherty, Fr William Hogg, Fr Tom Heneghan, John Joseph Diver** (father of Fr John Diver), **Sylvia Avery** (mother of Angela Bailey) **Denis Deasy** (father of Helen Cummins & grandfather of Liam).

We pray for all those who mourn and those whose anniversaries occur at this time.

We remember all our **sick and elderly parishioners**, those in hospital, the housebound and those who care for them:

Maria Simmonds, Michael O'Brien, Maureen Kerr, Suzanne Godwin, Jim Spillane, Geoff Grenade (father of Debbie Dray), Azita Sohadi, Evie Durkin, Clint Sampson, Rouben Sarkissian, Francisco Dirago, David Moss, Linda Kirk, Bishop Patrick Lynch, Frank McCabe, Jan Lewandowski, Tom McGlone, Emma Rees (daughter of Sue Rees), Elizabeth Gillman, Rhian Knappgate, Brenda Killeen, Barbara Stevenson, Peter and Ann Groves, Ella Hayes, Amandina Marsella, Stephen Fleming, Derek Wells, Roisin Loftus, Theresa Keys, Maureen Dillon, Felicia Nazareth, Mary McDonnagh, Fr Simon Peat, Thomas Haley, Anna Maria Maini, Veronica Heaton, Elizabeth Joège, Francis Nazareth, Sergio Della Grotta, Marie Bast, George Matthew, Odile Froger, Jenny Sathirasegaram, Eileen Rosenberg, Bridget McNally, Brenda Flaherty, Rowan Wolsgrove, Marcus Bird, Charles Thurley, Sandra Burlinson, Sophie Burrige, Sam Hitchin, Rene Boffa, Nicky Bushell, Shirley Enright, Tom Tyler, Finn Jordan, Margaret Inskip, Giancarlo Palermo, John Gleeson, Jeffrey D'Cruz, George Hayes, Michael Hoskins, Michael Byrne, Martin Dray, Seema Day, Graham Taylor, Freda Sirmon, Samantha Nosalik, Manual Pillai, Fay Kearney, Winna Duncan, Jennifer McIntyre, Carl Williams, Bridie O'Driscoll, Christine Keane, Josephine Bull, Vic Carrion and Norma Latham .

EASTER OFFERING

There are special envelopes available for your Easter Offering. In accordance with tradition, the Easter Offering is your personal gift to the Priests of the Parish as they receive no salary and provides for their personal expenses such as clothing, providing a vehicle for parish work, and so forth.

If you have GIFT AID envelopes there is a green one for your Easter Offering.

LENTEEN PROJECT 2013 EVENTS CALENDAR- SO FAR

Saturday 6th April **SOUTH INDIAN FOOD FESTIVAL & CULTURAL EVENING**

Weekends 6/7 April)

13/14 April) Collection of Lenten Boxes

20/21 April)



A VERY BIG THANK YOU to all those who helped organise and bought the delicious **INDIAN TAKE AWAY** last weekend. **£313** was raised for the Parish Lenten Project. Well done!

HELEN'S HIKERS

SPONSORED WALK Saturday 23rd March

<http://www.justgiving.com/lentenproject>

These donations can also be Gift Aided online.

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR SUPPORT



Lenten Project Money Raised So Far...

U.C.M. Cake Sale	£509.00
Quiz	£424.00
O.L.I. P.T.A.	£100.00
Fair Trade Breakfast	£ 80.00
Sweep Stake	£255.00
Table Top Sale	£935.54 more to come
Apple Pie Sunday	£553.74
Indian Takeaway	<u>£313.00</u>
TOTAL to date	<u>£3,170.28</u>

SILENT WALK OF WITNESS

Good Friday- 29th March 2013

The Silent Walk of Witness starts at Surbiton Methodist Church at 10.15am on Good Friday. Churches Together in Surbiton are looking for Steward Volunteers and for people to help carry the cross. If you are able to help, please give your details to Fr Anthony or Fr Arbo.

CLOCKS GO FORWARD 1 HOUR NEXT

SATURDAY 30 MARCH 2013

BRITISH SUMMERTIME BEGINS

(But not necessarily the Summer weather)



ST AGATHA'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

St Agatha's valued Headteacher is retiring this summer, and the Governors are seeking to appoint a dynamic new leader from September 2013.

Please see the poster at the back of the church for more information or contact the school:-

St Agatha's Catholic Primary School

St Agatha's Drive

Kingston upon Thames KT2 5TY

Tel: 020 8546 3879

Or email: agp@stagathas.rbksch.org

Grand Raffle Draw

This year the Lenten Project is running a Grand Raffle Draw to raise funds for our adopted charities. Tickets are £1.00 each and we have some fantastic prizes. Tickets will be sold after Masses for the next few weeks. Please buy a ticket if you are able. We would also like parishioners to take some tickets to sell to friends and colleagues too. If you are willing to sell some tickets please take a supply with you.

The draw will take place on Sunday 28th April and the deadline for return of counterfoils is Sunday 21st April. Counterfoils and cash together with unsold tickets should be placed through the Presbytery letter box in an envelope.

1st Prize: Two Grand stand tickets for 2013 British F1 Grand Prix

donated by Tata Communications Ltd sponsors of Force India

2nd Prize: Google Nexus 7 16GB tablet computer donated by Dr, Mrs & Mr Agrawal, Red Lion Road Surgery, Tolworth

3rd Prize: Tea for two at the Lanesborough Hotel donated by Green Target PR

4th Prize: £100 worth of M&S vouchers donated by Porter Novelli PR

Other prizes:

- Shirt signed by Olympic Triathlon medal winners Brownlee Brothers
- Visit to famous Lobb shoe shop and workshop plus £50 voucher
- £100 worth of cake making and baking goodies from SugarCraft
- Tour and lunch for two at The Royal Hospital, Chelsea
- Bottle of Floris perfume
- Voucher for a wash, cut and finish from Hair Associates in Kingston
- 2 Vouchers for Paul Garrett Hair Salon in Surbiton for £35 each
- ♦ 2 hour driving lesson.

**Mass in Celebration of the
Sacrament of Marriage
St George's Cathedral
15th June 2013**

If you are celebrating your 1st / 10th / 25th / 40th / 50th / 60th + wedding anniversary this year, please give your names and details to Elaine in the Parish Office as soon as possible so that you can receive an invitation from the Archbishop .

KINGSTON FOODBANK COLLECTION

Our next Foodbank collection is **THIS WEEKEND**- after all Masses – so do please remember to bring donations, even if it is one item, it really does help to make a difference. We need new, in-date, undamaged, non-perishable food, and donations can be left in a box in the church porch.

Food currently needed is vegetarian meals - things like tinned vegetable curry, vegetable chilli, macaroni cheese etc, tinned spaghetti. In the run-up to Easter it would also be nice to include some chocolate treats.

Many thanks for your help.
Helen Emmett, Jackie Murphy, Anne O'Brien, Ruth Oliver (OLI Foodbank Coordinators)

EASTER GARDEN

We need potted plants for this year's Easter Garden. Please could you bring your plants to the Lady Chapel early on Holy Saturday. Thank you.

**PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO ROME & ASSISI 2014
10th-17th June 2014**

Total cost for half board will be approximately £910 (including flights) and will include some excursions and entrance fees. Full details can be found on the parish website. **Closing date for applications is 27th March 2013.** If you cannot access the website, please call Andrew Richardson on 0208 399 3466

DOORWAY TO FAITH CALENDARS

These are available at the back of the church- FREE.

Also Doorway to Faith Booklets which cost £1.

Parish Library will open on last weekend of every month after every Mass, in the RDJ Room.
Next opening date: 27/28 April

St Philomena's School for Girls

The Governors at St Philomena's Catholic School for Girls, Pound Street, Carshalton, are seeking to appoint the following positions for September start:

- ◆ Teacher of Sociology- part time 2 days per week (possibly more)
- ◆ Teacher of PE

Further details and an application form are available by emailing recruitment@stphils.org.uk or contacting Marsha Adams on 020 8642 2025 ext 202 or can be downloaded from www.stphils.org.uk
Closing date Wednesday 27 March 2013, interviews week beginning Monday 15 April 2013.

NEW JUNIOR YOUTH CLUB

As you may have heard, we are pleased to announce that our new Junior Youth Club will be starting on Friday 19 April. This is for children from OLI Parish in school years 7 and 8, and we will meet every other Friday night, 7.15pm-8.45pm, during term time in the Parish Hall. We will have a range of informal activities for the children to take part in – music, games, crafts, a tuck shop, and time to chat with friends.

If your child is interested in joining the Junior Youth Club, do come to a brief meeting **TODAY** after the 11.00 Mass on **Sunday 24 March** in the Old Chapel. We will have more information then, including application forms, and there will be an opportunity to ask questions. Also, if you would like to help, do come along and let us know (it needn't be every time, maybe once a month or every two months). If you are not able to make that meeting then pencil the start date in your diary, and information and forms will be available on the Parish website after 24 March or at the Youth Club when we start.

Can you help with games for the club?

We would like to have a selection of games available at the Junior Youth Club and wonder if you have any that are in good condition but are no longer used. Some of the games we were thinking of are Twister, Pass the Bomb, cards, Top Trumps, or any smaller table games like air hockey. Please drop any games into the presbytery marked for the Junior Youth Club, or bring them along on Sunday 24th March when we have a meeting for parents/children who are interested. Or if you need us to collect anything from you, then please leave a message with Elaine in the Presbytery and she will pass it onto us.

Noah's Ark Pre-school

Do you have a child aged 2-5? Noah's Ark Pre-school is a busy, popular pre-school assessed as 'Outstanding' in our 2012 Ofsted inspection. The pre-school is situated in 'the Bungalow', between OLI church and OLI school and we offer pre-school education to children giving priority to the older child.

The closing date for applications for September 2013 entry is **28th March 2013**. Please ensure your application is submitted by then. Details of our admission policy and an application form are available and downloadable from our website (www.noahsark-preschool.org.uk). If you require a hard copy please phone us on 0208 390 0011 or call in at the pre-school.

Easter Triduum



The term triduum means 'three days.' The three days are counted as the Hebrews counted their days, from dusk to dusk. Therefore, the three days of the Easter triduum are from dusk on Holy Thursday to dusk on Good Friday (day one), dusk on Good Friday to dusk on Holy

Saturday (day two), and dusk on Holy Saturday to dusk on Easter Sunday (day three). Each of those days 'tells' a different part of the story of Jesus' saving action. We look at the Easter Triduum as one single celebration that lasts for three days. We cannot separate the death of Jesus from his resurrection. We do not spend all of the three days in church, but at various times during those days, we are called to church to gather and remember together. Because the Triduum tells an ongoing story, try if you can to make all the services.